

Sinclair Broadcasting's license should be rescinded. The "fair and balanced" requirement should be required of all stations. The percentage of control in the news marketplace should be drastically reduced. Media companies, such as Sinclair and Fox, should not be allowed to pretend they are offering factual news when they are in fact, promoting policies which benefit their corporate interests, i.e. making money. The FCC should require all stations to present at least 1 hour of factual news reporting every day during early evening hours.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. If Sinclair is allowed to broadcast this obviously partisan "Stolen Honor" then they should be required to immediately follow it with "Going Upriver."

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.